

THE MCGILL DAILY

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Hungry like the wolf since 1911

Wednesday, February 5, 1992

HYDRO-QUÉBEC: POWER AND INFLUENCE

Why exactly is Hydro-Québec paying \$1500 a day for the advice of an ex-head of the Central Intelligence Agency? A man who, even Hydro-Quebec admits, has no allegiances to Quebec.

Yet former CIA boss and US energy czar James Schlesinger continues to help shape Hydro's policy.

Ironically, while Hydro was intended to make Québécois "maitres chez nous," the utility is now influenced by a Who's Who of Wall Street insiders, Republican Party cronies, unemployed American utility chiefs and has-been spies.

Together they form a blue-ribbon committee of advisors whose first priority seems to be the interests of US shareholders, not Québec ratepayers. They are often involved in clear conflicts of interest and have been accused of influence peddling.

In addition, since their 1986 appointment, Hydro-Québec has entered into 13 contracts with major US multinationals that could eventually cost Québec over \$10 billion.

Officially, the utility denies that its American committee had any direct involvement in the negotiation of these contracts. But suspicion remains that friends in high places didn't hurt Hydro's image or efforts.

See
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by Dermot Travis

BEWARE OF YOUR SURROUNDINGS
ENVIRONMENT WEEK SERIES
THE DAILY'S FOCUS ON GREEN. PAGE 8.



NEWS BRIEFS

Grads opposed to job centre fee

Graduate students are opposed to paying extra fees to keep the Canada Employment Centre open, according to a survey released by the Post-Graduate Students' Society (PGSS).

According to the survey, over 85 per cent of grads do not accept paying a \$16 fee. Only 15 per cent of grads surveyed expected to get a job through the Centre.

Last December, the committee of the University Senate which manages student services (CCSS) decided to charge students \$16 per year for the employment centre because the federal government will no longer fund it.

"I think what we're hoping for is

that the CCSS will look at our survey and reconsider," said PGSS VP University Affairs Tamara Myers.

One respondent said that, "The staff at the Centre on campus has been rude and discouraging on every occasion that I have gone there."

Myers said, "If students are going to pay for the whole thing, we should know what we're going to get."

A majority of grads, 83 per cent, favoured working with national and provincial groups to oppose the closure.

"There are strong indications that the Québec government will step in to keep the on-campus employment centres open in Québec," said Eugenio Bolongaro, PGSS VP External.

— Michael Rottmayer

Taylor and Tully go to philosophy

The announcement that renowned political theorists Charles Taylor and James Tully are moving from Political Science to the Philosophy department is causing concern among the professors' graduate students.

Political science graduate stu-

dents met Thursday and passed a resolution to press the chair of the political science department and the dean of Arts to ensure that Taylor's and Tully's move would have minimum effect on graduate students.

Taylor and Tully's move, effective next fall, was announced two weeks ago.

Paul Whitely, a Masters student in political theory, said it is likely that graduate students' needs will be accommodated.

"The department is not as intransigent as some have asserted," said Whitely.

The resolution asks for:

- continued involvement of Tully and Taylor in the Political Science department

- crosslisting of five political theory courses taught by Taylor and Tully, so that they continue to be credited as political science

- continued participation of Taylor and Tully in the evaluation and supervision of graduate students and the selection of teaching assistants

Taylor and Tully have themselves requested their roles in these areas be maintained.

Three graduate student representatives, Tully, Taylor, department chair J. Black, and dean of Arts, Michael Maxwell, met last week to discuss the changes that would take place with the move. Black and Maxwell said they would do their best to accommodate Taylor's and Tully's needs.

The two professors are not ex-

pected to be replaced in the Political Science department in the near future.

The Dean of Arts placed a ban on new tenure-track positions in Political Science last year because of infighting within the department, said Whitely.

Undergraduate political theory students are meeting with Tully this week to discuss the implications for undergraduates of Taylor and Tully's move.

The meeting will be on Friday, at 12h30 in Union 302.

— Fiona McCaw

Leaky Leacock

Professors with offices on the third floor of Leacock came in to find them flooded on Monday of last week.

Roy Dalebozik, director of the Physical plant, blamed poor funding of building maintenance for the flood. He said that when the building had been closed for Sunday, two of the heaters of the outside of the building had broken down.

This resulted in several radiator pipes freezing. When the heating was started up again, there was a flood.

Dalebozik said there was no permanent damage to the building, although the heating and ventilation would be off-balance until the beginning of this week. Some professors had books damaged.

— Fiona McCaw



AUDITIONS

Kings Productions, the world's #1 producer of entertainment, is holding auditions for the 1992 season at CANADA'S WONDERLAND, Toronto, Ontario. Make your audition a show we can't do without! For additional information, call the Canada's Wonderland Entertainment office at 416/832-8356.

MONTREAL, QUEBEC

Tuesday, February 11
McGill University, Student Union Ballroom
3480 McTavish
12-2 p.m. Singers
2 p.m. Dancers Registration
12-2 p.m. Musicians, Specialty Acts, and Technicians

MONTREAL, QUEBEC

Le mardi 11 février
Université de McGill, 3480 Rue McTavish
Salle de bal de l'union des étudiants
12h à 14h Chanteurs
14h Danseurs Registration
12h à 14h Musiciens, Numéros de variété, Postes techniques



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EVENTS

The division of Pharmacology of St. Mary's Hospital is seeking male volunteers, 18-35, for research protocol on anxiety. Total participation would involve 5 hours over 4 weeks for \$570. Info: Kim or Janice 345-3077.

A Heritage Display for Black History Month will be on in Union 301, 11h-18h. A mostly visual representation of the history and culture of Africans both in Africa and in the Americas.

The Centre for Developing-Area Studies is having a lunch-time video presentation on the struggles of rural women in Nepal today at 12h30. 3715 Peel. Info: 398-3509.

Empowerment and Enviro-Awareness Week presents a workshop by McGill's Waste Management Dept. Find out what McGill is doing with their garbage! Union 107, 11h-13h. Info: 398-7432.

McGill Outing Club is planning a ski trip to Mt. Tremblant February 9. Sign up today in Union 411 or at the MOC meeting today at 19h30 in Leacock 26. Tickets \$30 (\$28 for members) includes bus and lift.

The Friends of Redpath Museum present Dr. G. Bell on "Natural and Supernatural Explanations of the Origin and Diversity of Life", Redpath Museum auditorium, 18h. Info: 398-4086.

A talk on religious pluralism in Israel sponsored by the Progressive Zionist Caucus and MIPAC will take place at Hillel House, 3460 Stanley, today. All are welcome. Info: 938-1843.

The Voice of Women is meeting to formulate a statement to be made to the Canadian government regarding the UN Conference on Environment and Development. 19h30, Unitarian Church, 3415 Simpson. Info: 933-6797.

EVENTS HILITE

For too long now progressive groups on campus have been isolated and disorganized. The Progressive Student Network (PSN) is an attempt to deal with this situation.

Lefties, feminists, people working against racism or heterosexism, AIDS activists, revolutionaries and many other 'progressive' people have become ghettoized. We work separately on separate issues and are less effective for it.

And even though we may have significant differences in our focuses or in our politics, we know that there is also much which links us together. The PSN enhances these links. The PSN makes it possible for individuals and groups to meet, work together and let each other know about issues and events, to co-sponsor events and potentially much more.

At today's meeting we will adopt a statement of principles and a constitution that everyone involved can agree on. Then we will get down to some actual networking — so bring your posters, announcements etc. to room 400 (Multi-cultural lounge) of the Union building today, Wed. Feb 5 at 17h. For more info: Brian 948-4284 or Cheryl 286-1473.

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The
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MBA

The Western Business School is widely recognized as one of the world's leading business schools. Please join representatives and alumni from the School at an information session on the Western MBA Program.

Date: Thursday, February 13, 1991
Time: 5:30 - 7:30 p.m.
Place: Queen Elizabeth Hotel
Galerie 3 Room
900 Rene Levesque Blvd. West
Montreal

Still More Fees for Students

by James Forbes

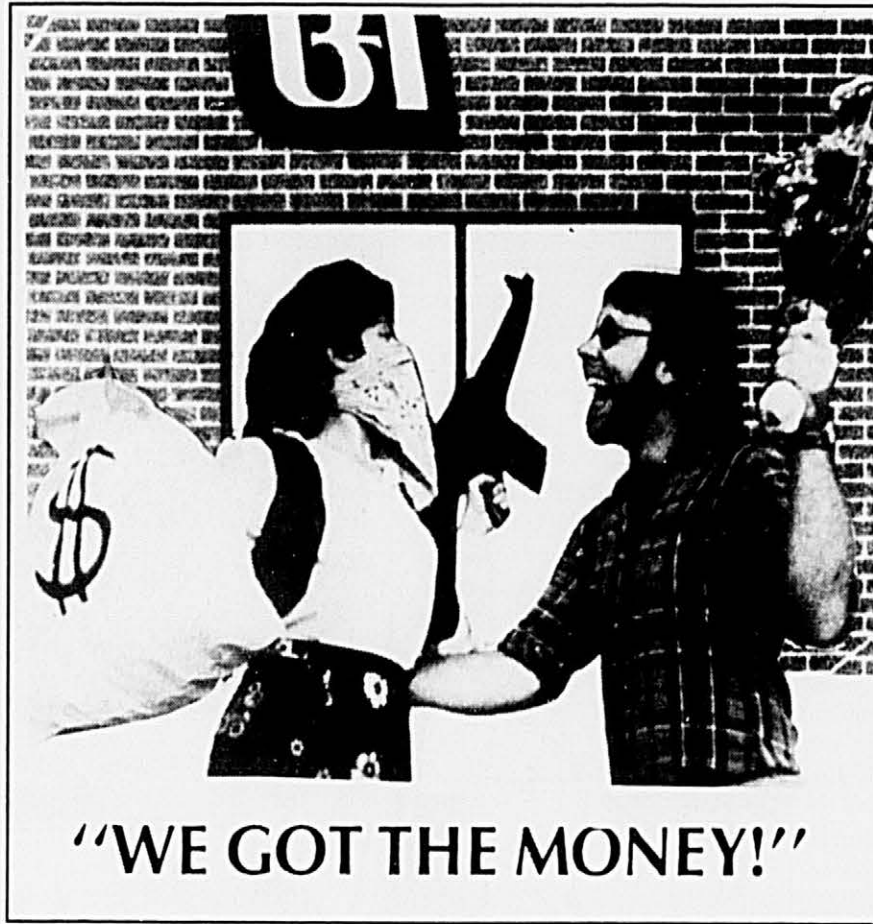
Students may be forced to cough up another fifty dollars every year that won't be spent until the year 2000.

Last November, the Board of Governors (BoG) established a special committee to raise money to "reinforce McGill's local, national and international uniqueness." The project hopes to raise \$200 million by the year 2000.

To help raise the amount, Student's Society (SSMU) established a committee of its own. The committee proposed to charge every student \$50 every year for the next five years.

"It's completely beyond me how people who say they represent students can propose that undergrads have the ability to give an extra \$50 per year," said Michael Temelini, president of Post Graduate Students' Society.

The committee stated that student involvement in the fund is crucial. "Student contribution is crucial because it is a corporate selling factor," said Rosalind Ward-Smith vp University Affairs.



"WE GOT THE MONEY!"

"It is the key to the success of the campaign"

"The Engineering Undergraduate Society is willing to help out the university in any way we can," said EUS president Gino Brancatelli.

Many students are opposed to the extra fee.

ASUS senator Alexandra Clark was "vehemently opposed to this plan." "How will students afford such a donation?" she asked.

SSMU's initial information campaign consisted of a small ballot that outlined the plan in amorphous terms. It asked student groups to provide a simple yes or no answer.

Cynthia Benjamin, member of the Women's Union criticized the lack of explanation and preparation in the communication. "There was nothing to indicate

where the money will be spent, and no indication of how students will have control over monies spent long

after they have left the university," said Benjamin.

Ward-Smith explained that "the monies would be directly returned to the faculty of origin, where they would be spent on priority demands of undergrads." She feels that this added fee is a better way to raise student monies than through donations because it will facilitate the re-transfer of monies to their respective faculties.

Over twenty five percent of the money will go to student scholarships and services facilities. The remainder will establish special departmental chairs, improve library collections, and preserve, restore and build teaching space at McGill.

"Students benefit from education, and because McGill is so strapped, anyway students can make a difference is important," said Ward Smith.

Special student committees will be established with the help of the BoG every year to determine where the monies can best be spent. There will be some form of opt-out of this programme, which has yet to be finalized. A referendum on the issue will be held in March.

New newspaper at Kahnawake

by Katerina Cizek

The Montréal Gazette has a new competitor in Kahnawake.

The Mohawk community welcomed the first issue of a new bi-weekly newspaper, *The Eastern Door*, last Friday. It is Kahnawake's first community-controlled newspaper in almost 6 years.

"I've been wondering for a long time why we don't have our own paper," said Ken Deer, the paper's editor-in-chief.

"It's a chance for us to tell our own story," he said.

Deer is running the paper from his home, and calls the newspaper "a good cottage industry."

He said coverage will focus on community-based and local news, issues related to the Mohawk people, government policy and other First Nations.

The name, *The Eastern Door*, comes from the Mohawk's name within the Six Nations Iroquois Confederacy. "Mohawks are referred to as Kanien'keha:ka Na'kon:ke Rontehnhohanonhna, the Keepers of the Eastern Door," the paper explains. "There are seven Mohawk Communities, and Kahnawake is the eastern-most of them all."

Kanataktak, who helps with the development of *The Eastern Door*, said "The paper is supported by all the people in the community. It's striving to be non-partisan."

The first issue includes stories about possible changes in Kahnawake's governmental structures, the Québec Native Women's Association Human Rights Watch,

and an interview with Owen Young, the defence lawyer at the Oka trials.

One page is dedicated to a story in the Mohawk language and a Mohawk crossword without English translation "as an incentive to use our Mohawk language."

A feature in the issue focuses on the long history of media in Kahnawake, recounting, for example, how in the 60's "a gutsy and determined 12 year-old young lady, Alicia Marquis, went to press."

Marquis personally researched, wrote, mimeographed and delivered *The Kahnawake News* for close to five years.

Kanataktak stressed the impor-



Alicia Marquis

tance of having a medium for dialogue within the community.

"A lot of people aren't clear about the issues, for example, what self-government means," he said. "And

a newspaper is a good way for a view to get expressed without being interrupted."

Kanataktak also said the paper will strive to develop networks with other First Nations in North America and internationally.

"Our community seems to be at the forefront of issues, and we can point out to people (in other communities) that we have similar issues that we should work on and learn about together."

The Eastern Door relies solely on advertising and sales revenues. It is presently sold in Kahnawake, Kanataktak, Six Nations and several other First Nations communities.

But Deer said they hope to expand their market. "It's important that non-Natives hear our point of view," he said.

The Eastern Door is planning on distributing in Montréal, and Deer said he hopes to set up a stand at McGill.

"The paper's going to be hectic," Deer said. "It's going to be trouble, but it's a responsibility."

The Eastern Door can be bought at various locations in Kahnawake for one dollar.

Subscriptions are also available for \$39 for one year, by writing to *The Eastern Door*, Box 326, Kahnawake Mohawk Territory, J0L 1B0.

TOPLESS WOMAN TO APPEAL

by Clive Thompson

TORONTO (CUP) - Guelph university student Gwen Jacob is going to fight a recent indecent exposure conviction for walking around topless last summer.

Jacob, who was fined \$75 and left with a criminal record after her case closed in January, said the judge invoked sexist community standards to back up his decision.

"His decision legally reinforced the sexual stereotyping of women, which is a dangerous precedent to set," she said.

Jacob was arrested last July after two senior citizens complained about her toplessness.

During the trial, Jacob argued women's breasts are the same as

men's, and treating them differently violated her constitutional right to equality.

But Judge Bruce Payne said she wasn't playing by community rules, which discriminate between the sexes.

"Anyone who thinks that the male breast and the female breast are the same is not living in the real world," he said.

"The female breast...is part of the female body that is sexually stimulating to men, both by sight and touch, and is not therefore a part of the body that ought to be flagrantly exposed to public view."

Jacob said her constitutional rights are more important than social standards. Her appeal will hinge on this issue, she added.

"Obviously men's and women's breasts aren't exactly the same, but I think there is a danger when the law is differentiating between the two in terms of rights."

Judge Payne also said the law already treats men and women's breasts differently. Touching a man's breast is assault, whereas touching a woman's breast is sexual assault, he noted.

But a Denise Raueme, a University of Toronto law professor said the comparison between sexual assault law and indecency law isn't valid.

"The kind of harm that occurs to a community on account of having seen a woman's breasts is not comparable to the type of harm that occurs to a woman who is sexually

assaulted," said Raueme. "He didn't consider the context of the two situations at all."

By ruling that Jacob's rights are subordinate to community standards, Payne accepted those standards as immutable rather than trying to change them, she added.

"I think it's a bogus argument," said Raueme.

Jacob said she is willing to appeal the conviction up to the Supreme Court because she wants to set a new legal precedent in this area of women's self-definition.

"It's really important that this be an appeal on constitutional grounds, because I want it to affect the country."

THE MCGILL DAILY

COMMENT

Whither wanders the environmental movement?

The environmental movement has withered. Co-opted on one side by corporations and right-wing consumer interests and stagnating without long-term goals and direction on the other side.

Greenpeace is now an institution that lobbies in government merely for changing laws and Earth First! rages against an industrial system which it cannot provide an alternative to.

We have reached a point of environmental awareness, thanks to the efforts of mainstream and radical groups, but we hesitate to take the next step.

For individual people environmental concerns get solved like past concerns got solved, more consumption, better technology and glossier promo ads. If you want to 'care' you can give to charity.

It has always been easy to give handouts, and paying the Greenpeace canvassers when they come to your door is no different. But the problem with merely buying different products in the supermarket or merely dropping quarters in the outstretched hat is that your decision making stops there.

Using your blue box, shopping green and lobbying for tighter regulations is a first step. But is that enough? More radical social changes are necessary in how we transport ourselves, where we live, how we work and who we work for.

When only one person decides for and by themselves where their cash goes, no common consensus ever gets reached. One becomes dispirited.

Saving the environment becomes one more special interest, the exclusive domain of environmentalists. Environmentalism becomes one more lifestyle option, and politicians and management can ignore their responsibilities.

More and more the traditional organizations like Greenpeace and Pollution Probe either have stopped criticizing the greater economic system or find they do not have a basis from which to criticize it.

Neither do reactionary deep ecologists provide a long term solution. They cannot fit humans and social relations into their philosophy save as permanent 'problems'.

Environmental concerns are human concerns and the question of how to solve environmental problems are questions of how we can better improve human life against a backdrop of properly working ecosystems.

We need a direction. One that simultaneously recognizes the need for individual participation coupled with common interest, where people take an active position over issues which directly affect their lives. One that recognizes that social relations and class position affect people's 'environmental record.'

One that seeks to maintain the environment rather than creating expensive ways for exclusive groups to protect themselves from worsening conditions. (Consider buying bottled drinking water.) One that sees environmental concerns as common and public. One that seeks to put power in the hands of those affected by environmental degradation and not those that profit from it.

We all live under the ozone layer and breathe city air. Just as insuring the proper functioning of the ecosystem is more than a lifestyle change, wearing Birkenstocks and yelling against the system is not a solution.

Noah Quastel
Eric Smiley

Robin LeBaron

LETTERS

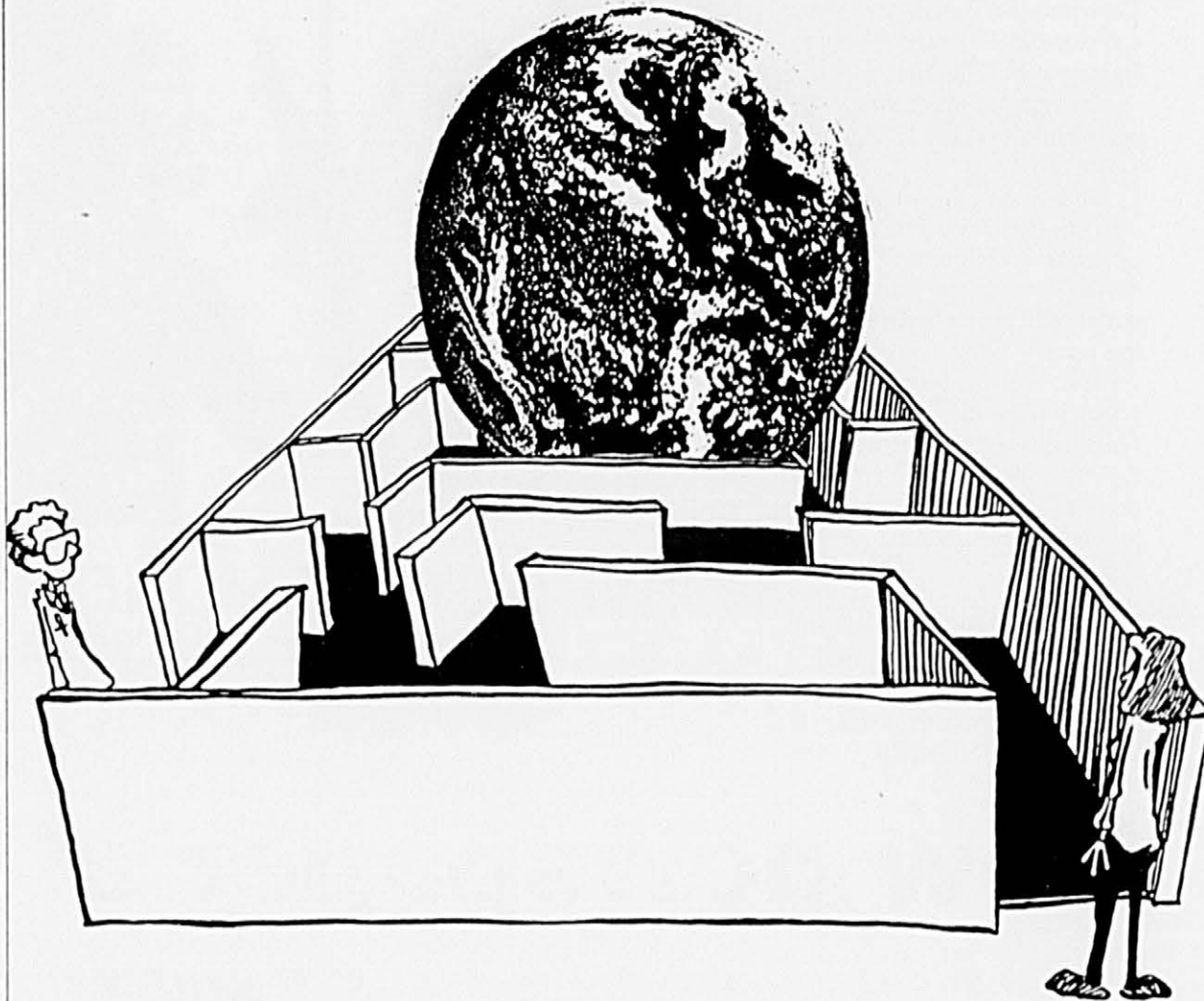
The Ten Billion Dollar Letter To the Daily:

After reading Dirlik and Arafat's article on "The Ten Billion Dollar Question" we were shocked by the unsubstantiated accusations presented.

To begin with, their argument implies that the only reason the Israelis are involved in peace negotiations is to secure a ten billion dollar guarantee

from the United States. Contrary to the authors' belief, Israel does not regard the ten billion dollar guarantee as a precondition to peace negotiations. In fact, according to a recent *New York Times* article, Israel's "Triple B Credit Rating", means that; it independently has the capability of financing its own

continued on page 9



HYDE PARK

A new group is being formed on campus which seeks to promote dialogue between Jewish, Christian, and Muslim students. The organization is called "Interfaith Circle: Jewish-Christian Dialogue" which despite its name has elicited the interest of two Muslims who have most recently joined the group. The group specifically hopes to create a congenial atmosphere where students of these three communities can share ideas, question and concerns in a non-confrontational way. An important proviso of this group, is that proselytizing has no place in religious dialogue. The aim is not to convince others of one's own personal beliefs, but to increase awareness of other people's perspectives and develop a greater self-understanding at the same time. Meeting will ideally be held on Jewish, Christian and Muslim turf respectively.

Interfaith Circles is an American based organization which has set up dialogue groups throughout North America. These sessions have been attended primarily by leaders of Christian and Jewish organizations and lay people, but the most recent Montréal branch has opened its doors to the student population. This group, the first of its kind in Canada, meets twice a month and follows the guidelines and workshops provided by Interfaith Circles. The workshops include discussions about personal religious beliefs and practices, ideas about Scripture, and contemporary and historical is-

sues. Discussions are fairly well-focused to encourage meaningful and productive dialogue. This program is supported by a generous grant for the Jewish Chautauqua Society. Future events may include a retreat, and possibly a visit to another student group in Chicago.

In spite of the commendable aims of this program, some group members have expressed that they are afraid to ask questions that will offend, and often feel defensive when answering questions about their beliefs. One member wondered whether religion even had any relevance at all in her life. Even for the most open and eager students, religion is a provocative or even questionable subject and this group is learning that dialogue is more than a trendy catch word for "politically correct" thinkers. It will take time and effort to bridge the distances between faiths, and recognizing this is in itself a worthwhile exercise. Even if you think religion means nothing to you, or you don't know what religion means, but you are willing and interested to share your own experiences and learn about others, Interfaith Circles is good place to explore these issues.

There are four facilitators of the group; Rabbi Yakov Tarvis (McGill-Concordia Hillel), Rev. David Galston (McGill Presbyterian and United Church Chaplain), Matii Tehro (Concordia Lutheranb Chaplain), and Steven Kruh (CEGEP director for Hillel).

For more info call, Yakov Travis 845-9171 or David Galston 398-4104.

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French tests close door to university: critics

by Ita Kendall

MONTREAL (CUP) — Québec's decision to implement compulsory French tests for students applying to University will damage accessibility and penalize students for the failures of the educational system, critics say.

Starting this spring, students from French CEGEPs applying to university will write the provincially-administered test. Before 1994, those failing the test will be granted conditional acceptance. But after 1994, failures will mean returning to CEGEP for many students.

"You can have tests to point out those who need to improve their competence in French," said Annie Turgeon, VP External at CEGEP de Trois Rivières. "But it should not serve as a basis to refuse people from university."

André Gagnon, Student Liaison Officer for the student association of Université de Québec à Montréal (UQAM), said the tests won't help students improve their language skills.

"If you force students to take the test, they'll only be motivated to pass," said Gagnon. "They will memorize the material and then forget it right after the exam."

Gagnon doubted the tests will improve the quality of French spoken and written in Québec universities. He said the increased number of allophones in Québec universities and CEGEPs has changed the demographics of most educational institutions.

"Fifteen or 20 years ago most students were francophones. Now there are many students who do not have French as their mother tongue," he said. "The education system has to adapt to the new student body."

But university administrators argue the tests are the only feasible method of improving the quality of French used in Québec academic institutions. Robert Couillard, undergraduate vice-dean at the Université du Québec à Montréal, said the tests will improve the quality of French used by students.

"Students have a tendency to overestimate their competence in French. This is an equitable method to test them," said Couillard.

He said the test would result in CEGEPs concentrating on improving students' competence in French and was not aimed at diminishing university accessibility.

"The objective is not to close access to the universities but to focus attention on the problem," said Couillard. "There will be a transition period until the objective (of improving French language skills) can be attained."

Couillard said an improved grasp of the language will help students get jobs. "Competence in the French language could be the determining factor which encourages a employer to hire."

But Gagnon disagreed, pointing out that many students learn from English text books. "Why are we



Robert Couillard.

asking them to have a superior competence in French? Ordinary competence in French is all most employers want," he said.

Gagnon was also concerned the new tests could signal more prov-

ince-wide tests, such as aptitude tests for other subjects.

"The government will take a sensitive subject such as French to introduce tests in other areas," he said. "We don't support any tests which will block access to university."

Québec CEGEP professors are not much happier about the tests than students.

"The tests are not acceptable to us," said Michel Duffy, president of the Fédération Autonome du Collégial, a CEGEP professors' union. "The teachers evaluate the students and give them marks. Why do they need another test?"

Duffy also questioned the tests' validity. He said students will evade revealing their linguistic weaknesses by using simple language and structure.

Student movement unites, then blows up

by Dave Ley

A conference bringing together student associations from across the province disintegrated last weekend as delegates complained about the conference's format.

Most delegates at the conference agreed that little was accomplished at the meeting.

The conference was organized and attended by la Fédération Etudiante Universitaire du Québec (FEUQ), and its sister organization, FECQ, an association of Québec CEGEPs.

"The conference was a flop," said Eugenio Bolongaro, President of the Post-Graduate students' association of Québec (RASCQ). "It shows how truly divided the student movement in Québec is."

Students' Society President Scott Mitic agreed. "The conference was not as productive as it could have been. We certainly agreed that we disagreed."

RASCQ, and l'Association Nationale des Etudiants et Etudiantes du Québec (ANEEQ) also attended the conference, with a non-voting, observer status.

ANEEQ is Québec's largest and oldest student association. McGill's Students' Society is a member of the two year old FEUQ.

Although the conference was promoted as the "assembly of the student movement," ANEEQ delegates said the structure was overwhelmingly slanted in FEUQ's favour.

The conference received the final coup de grace when it lost quorum, after ANEEQ and several FEUQ delegates walked out in protest. The FEUQ delegates were



annoyed at the conference's format and ANEEQ's continued criticism of FEUQ policies.

"FEUQ and FECQ delegates resented the ANEEQ schools dominating the debate, and they proposed motions to curtail ANEEQ's speaking rights," said Bolongaro. "The whole thing resulted in a polarization of the debate and a breakup of the conference."

FEUQ members blamed ANEEQ for the collapse of the conference, claiming ANEEQ refused to compromise.

"We are surprised at the actions of ANEEQ, who dominated the conference and then quit without a valid explanation," said FEUQ president Nicholas Plourde. "ANEEQ has always talked about solidarity and unity in the student movement."

In a surprise twist, the student association of Université de Montréal (FAECUM), Plourde's very own university, walked out the conference alongside the ANEEQ schools, resulting in the loss of quorum.

FAECUM VP External Michael Sardi explained the move. "ANEEQ

"The test won't measure their competence in the language," he said.

"Students will find strategies to avoid being tested on language skills."

Turgeon said the government has a responsibility to help students at all levels improve and maintain basic French language skills. She said most Québec students do not receive much instruction in French grammar, syntax, vocabulary or spelling after primary school.

"At the Secondary V level, they concentrate on poetry or literature. By the time students get to CEGEP they have to take remedial French courses," said Turgeon. "The government should not be closing doors, it should be changing the educational programs — starting at the secondary level."

was engaging in grand philosophical debates and tying up the conference," he said. "Our walkout was to show that the conference was not organized in the best way to facilitate debate. It could be better."

Bolongaro said FAECUM's move was aimed at Plourde directly.

"What FAECUM was doing was slapping Plourde in the face, saying 'you failed'," said Bolongaro. "It was one of the worst and ugliest case of backstabbing in student politics I have ever seen."

ANEEQ and FEUQ differ on many points of policy and tactics. While ANEEQ favours a more radical approach, supporting zero tuition and student militancy, FEUQ supports a more conservative approach, preferring cooperation with the government and accepting limited tuition fee hikes.

The conference was the second time that rival ANEEQ and FEUQ member schools have met. A previous incarnation of last weekend's conference occurred two years ago during the student mobilization against tuition fee increases.

In that conference, FEUQ delegates criticized the province-wide gathering as too "ANEEQiste," and walked out on several occasions.

Bolongaro said last weekend's conference has demonstrated that partisan conferences can never succeed.

"If anything good has come out of this conference, it is that no one student group can monopolize the student movement," he said. "It shows that we must work together or else it doesn't work."

Redmen logo might be scrapped

by Irene Bloemraad

The Redmen logo may be a thing of the past by the end of March.

An Ad-Hoc Committee of the McGill Athletic Board is currently studying the stylized First Nations person's head used by McGill sports teams.

"The athletics department is prepared to drop the logo," said James Stewart, athletics rep to Student's Society.

But some say the Redman name should also be scrapped.

"Changing the logo is not enough," said Ned Blackhawk of the Native Awareness Coalition. "The name is closely associated with the logo. When people hear Redmen they will still think of First Nations."

The drive to change the logo resulted from the controversy surrounding the Atlanta Braves in last fall's World Series. This event generated petitions and discussion on campus by groups such as the Native Awareness Coalition.

"When the matter was brought to our attention we didn't sit on it; we acted," said Stewart.

The Ad-Hoc Committee will present its findings to the Athletic Board in the first week of March. A decision will be made at that time.

Earl Zuckerman, editor of the Currie Bugle, the athletics department newspaper, still does not see the logo as an issue. "We don't perceive it as racist," he said.

Zuckerman pointed out that all the teams' equipment would have to be changed. "This is something we are not budgeted for," he said.

Alan MacDonald, manager of the Sports Shop in the Currie Gym, says that there are no plans to pull merchandise with the logo off the shelves. "The matter has not been discussed between the Athletic Department and myself," he said.

However, MacDonald foresees no problem in changing the team equipment when uniforms are ordered in April and May. He says that only football helmets actually show the logo and that these can be easily repainted.

Irwin Gopnik, Dean of Students, is also a member of the Athletic Board. He believes that the logo is relatively new to McGill and that therefore it has "no deep historical meaning". In contrast, the Redmen name is very old, a reflection of the red uniforms the athletes wear. Gopnik says, "The name has nothing to do with native people."

Blackhawk disagreed. "If the shirts had been black and the team was called the Blackmen with a racist logo, people would want the name changed."

"The name still has a racist meaning despite its historical connotations," he said.

Student's Society has published a survey polling students for their opinions on the Redman logo and name. The results will be presented to council on February 13 and a position will be taken at that time.



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Hydro-Québec's American connections began in the period following Premier Bourassa's 1976 election loss to the Parti Québécois. The ousted Premier taught briefly at the Harvard University's John F. Kennedy School of Government and developed a network of influential contacts.

Shortly after his return to the premier's office in 1985, Bourassa put 10 of these influential cronies on the provincial payroll as a select committee of advisers to the massive Hydro-Québec utility.

Each is paid \$2500 annually. That's in addition to the \$1500 they earn each day for work on Hydro's behalf, according to public statements by Québec Energy minister Lise Bacon.

Dim bulbs at \$1500 a day

The role of this advisory committee is unclear, since many committee members don't seem to have advice on energy issues worth \$15 a day, let alone \$1500.

"These guys just aren't up to date on current matters," said Robert Blohm, a well-known Montréal investment banker, in an interview.

The presence of William Clark on the committee suggests Blohm might be right. Clark, a former National Security Adviser to Ronald

Reagan, raised eyebrows during his 1980 Senate confirmation hearings, when he was unable to name three African countries.

Was it Clark's brilliance, or his influential friends that made him attractive to Hydro-Québec? Both the giant utility and the Québec government refuse to comment on the committee's mandate and the activities of individual members.

Clark isn't the only committee member better known for his influence in American high circles, than his expertise on international energy policy. Québec taxpayers are also paying salaries to well-known and influential US politicians including Edmund Muskie, William Simon, Charles Curtis, John Dyson and Guy Nichol.

And although each is known among a tight circle of Washington lobbyists, it is unclear whether committee members are lobbying on behalf of Hydro.

When the committee was initiated at a 1986 New York news conference, committee chair James Schlesinger was quoted as saying that individual members could lobby on Hydro's behalf for power sales in the US.

Bourassa, who was present at the conference, did not object. Yet five years later Hydro spokespeople told reporters that members of the committee could *not* lobby on its behalf.

This contradiction raises fears that American laws could be violated by either the committee or Hydro-Québec. Lobbyists in the United States must register and disclose on whose behalf they act, something Hydro refuses to do. Without full disclosure of the committee's activities, suspicions back up Schlesinger's claim — individual members *can* lobby on Hydro's behalf.

And if this is true, members of the influential committee and their friends could profit from advice given to Hydro. This friendly, corporate incest could cost Québec ratepayers billions.

Conflicts of interest

Until 1988, one committee member was William Simon, a former US Treasury Secretary and consultant for Bechtel, the American engineering giant. Bechtel played an important role in the first James Bay hydro-electric development and might participate in future projects.

Bechtel has recently approached foreign governments for equity stakes in future hydro developments in return for cut-rate construction contracts, according to a recent article in the *Globe and Mail*. The potential for conflict of interest is troubling.

Also on the committee are the former heads of three US utilities

with Hydro-Québec contracts.

Former Chair of the New York Power Authority (NYPA) John Dyson continued to serve NYPA as a trustee for six months after his appointment to the Hydro-Québec committee.

Dyson eventually resigned from NYPA amidst charges of conflict of interest. He told reporters at the time: "I was asked to serve and the governor and I agreed that it would be a good idea to keep open our relations with Hydro, since I was the one who negotiated those contracts [between NYPA and Hydro-Québec]."

The comment seemed to confirm fears that Dyson had been an agent for both the buyer and seller of Québec power.

Dyson denied any wrongdoing, but the incident was not the first time his conduct had been called into question.

In 1982 he met secretly with former Congressperson Jack Kemp to ask him to encourage then-President Reagan to overturn a Federal Energy Commission decision which went against NYPA. The meeting directly violated US law.

In addition, last July New York's *Village Voice* raised new allegations involving a \$60 000 donation in 1982 from Dyson and his family members to the "Friends of Mario Cuomo" organization.

LEHMAN'S LYING ROBBERS

Another facet of the lies and deceit surrounding the James Bay hydro-electric project is the contradiction between publically-issued documents and internal confidential reports of one of Hydro's chief creditors.

Lehman Brothers, a Wall Street brokerage firm, is extremely reluctant to upset its Québec clients.

Following the January 1991 release of the Liberal Party's Allaire Report on constitutional change, Lehman leaked a copy of its appraisal of the report to a New York-based Canadian

Press reporter with close ties to Bourassa.

In the appraisal, Lehman said "Québec's proposals are just and reasonable and that Québec remains a good risk for investors."

Curiously, the internal research which Lehman did not release to the public completely contradicted what it was telling investors and its clients.

In a confidential report prepared by Paul Tice of Lehman's research department and leaked to the *Daily*, the Allaire report is described as "radical and an approach that would scrap the existing

constitution, emasculate the federal government and confer *de facto* sovereignty on Québec."

"Accordingly, our opinion with regard to Québec has grown somewhat more guarded," Tice writes.

These contradictory reports raise fears that Lehman may have withheld or misrepresented information on a bond issue the firm was actively promoting. This is a practice generally frowned upon by US securities regulators, who require full and complete disclosure of such information.

The *Voicer* reported that soon after the donation, Governor Cuomo reversed his long-standing opposition to future arrangements between NYPA and Hydro-Québec.

Another member of Hydro's controversial committee, former Maine Senator Edmund Muskie, joined the committee only two weeks following the collapse of Hydro's sale to Maine in 1989.

When asked if Muskie could have been hired to lobby on behalf of Hydro's sale in Maine, his Washington secretary denied he was a lobbyist. Muskie himself would not comment on his involvement with Hydro.

Has-been spies

But perhaps the most serious concerns regarding the Hydro advisory committee centre around its chair, former CIA head James Schlesinger.

The ties between Schlesinger and Bourassa are close. In 1984, Schlesinger wrote the preface to Bourassa's book, *Power From the North*.

Since 1979, Schlesinger has been a senior economic advisor with Lehman Brothers, a major Wall St. firm owned by American Express.

Hydro's opponents have expressed fears over Schlesinger's ability to advise Hydro on its \$65 billion development plans during the 90s, since Lehman Brothers stands to benefit from any borrowing Hydro makes to finance the development.

Henry Lee, an academic at the John F. Kennedy School of Government has even suggested that Schlesinger's participation at Hydro

retary. At that time his offices leaked to a US aluminum smelter, with interests in New Zealand, a confidential transcript of a meeting between himself and New Zealand Prime Minister Robert Muldoon.

Telexes obtained by the *Daily* indicate this transcript provided the US owners with vital information that would aid their efforts to negotiate a better power rate from the New Zealand government.

It's an illustration of why Québécois should fear their new-found American friends. Schlesinger, Dyson and friends have other employers than Hydro-Québec, and when conflicts of interest arise, their first loyalties seem unlikely to be to Québec.

Bad deals for dam demand

This may be the first time in corporate history a company hired lobbyists to lose money.

In addition to the controversies surrounding Dyson, Muskie, and Schlesinger, committee members also have close ties with individuals and companies doing business with Hydro.

For instance, along with fellow committee member William Simon, Schlesinger also served in the cabinet of former President Gerald Ford.

Ford is now on the Board of Directors at Lehman Brothers. He is also a director emeritus of the Georgia based aluminum producer AMAX.

And while Lehman lends Hydro billions of dollars, AMAX is the willing recipient of equally large sums in power subsidies and other benefits from Hydro and the Québec government. Benefits which *Metals Week*, a privately circulated North American trade publication, described as "stable government, lax environmental laws and cheap power."

Hydro refuses to disclose the rate it charges AMAX, on the basis that such knowledge would harm AMAX's competitive position.

But AMAX's US Chair Allen Born was quoted in *Metals Week* as saying: "Everybody—including us—is buying power for 1.5 cents."

It costs Hydro 2.7 cents to produce the power, according to Hydro-Québec officials, which amounts to a net loss for the public corporation.

AMAX's Canadian representatives refuse to publicly discuss rates.

Environmental exceptions

And it wasn't just cheap power that AMAX received from Québec.

In April, they were given an exemption from Québec's already "lax environmental laws" in the construction of their Luralco smelter in Deschambault.

According to the *Globe and Mail*, AMAX's two Québec contracts and environmental exemptions have made its shares less susceptible to the volatile price fluctuations for which the aluminum industry is known.

Hydro currently has nine other

contracts with major multi-national corporations such as AMAX.

In addition to cheap power, Québec is also providing these companies with land incentives and other inducements, including a decision to invest public funds in at least five of the 13 companies. It also agreed to lease the Cartier Mining Company to Dofasco for \$1 per year. The lease allows Dofasco to annually produce between six and seven million tons of iron pellets virtually rent-free.

Sharing risks but not the losses

Charles Bradford, an aluminum analyst with the Union Bank of Switzerland, argues the current problems in the aluminum industry are a direct result of the Québec program to attract new smelters.

In 1986, Hydro developed a policy to attract major energy-intensive industries to Québec through a secret and highly controversial risk-sharing program. The idea behind this "risk-sharing" program was to sell power at a loss to companies in the initial years of a 25 year contract. Hydro would attempt to recover losses as the price of the commodity rose.

Alarming, Hydro's program does not provide any guarantees that losses can ever be recovered.

Despite Hydro's efforts to keep Québec in the dark over the risk-sharing program, there is very little within the industry that is actually secret about these contracts.

In fact, during negotiations of one of the thirteen contracts, Hydro officials became aware that at least one of the other contracts was in private circulation amongst major multinationals.

The cross-ownership amongst all four aluminum smelters involved in Hydro's program limits the damage disclosing rates might cause. It's hardly a battle between fierce and independent competitors; but rather a friendly competition within the world club of aluminum producers.

Ratepayers are, in fact, unwittingly being forced to take risks that may end up costing Québec billions of dollars. Risks that private shareholders are either unwilling or refuse to take.

The total losses on Hydro's four contracts with aluminum smelters alone could total \$7.5 billion over the next 25 years, according to Jean-Thomas Bernard of Laval University.

With Bourassa's friends in high places, Hydro ratepayers don't need enemies.

While the giant utility would like Québécois to believe that its real enemies are the Karen Lohrs of the Sierra Club or the Matthew Coon-Comes of the Crees, what ratepayers should really be asking is if they can afford Hydro's friends? Friends satisfied with the knowledge that if Bourassa's dam busts, Québécois will pick up the tab.

As Hydro's Michel Hannoyer said of their American advisors, "There's no doubt about James Schlesinger's first allegiance. He's an American. He'll help us, provided it helps the United States."

It costs ratepayers only \$1500 a day and billions of dollars in wasteful losses to buy Schlesinger's idea of loyalty.

UNLIKELY SHOULDERS

It fell onto the unlikely shoulders of Québec Equality Party Leader Robert Libman to disclose to Québécois what the world already seemed to know: Hydro-Québec was selling electricity to large Québec industries far below the cost of production.

By the time the 13th risk-sharing contract had been signed, Hydro had agreed to sell, at a significant loss, 3145 megawatts annually to Québec based corporations.

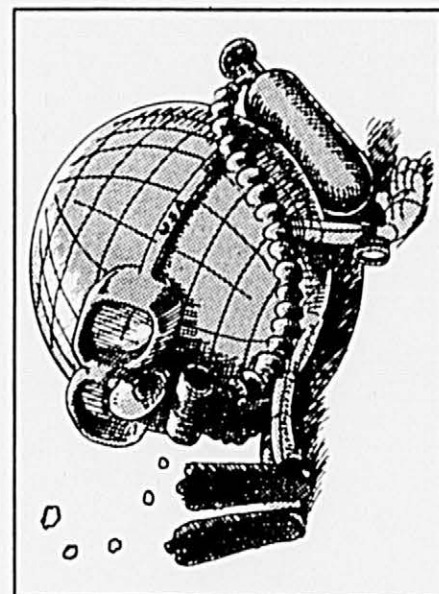
The cost has since been passed on to Québec industries, which in some cases have seen their rates rise by over 75 per cent in the past year. To produce the amount of power Québec sold at a loss, local ratepayers must now foot the \$12.5 billion tab for James Bay II.

Energy Minister Lise Bacon, however, dismissed Libman and other critics of Hydro's risk-sharing programs by pointing to the future. By the year 2000, Bacon estimated that the 13 risk-sharing contracts will have created 600 000 jobs.

But an independent American analyst states that employment at these facilities will actually be less than 6000, or two tenths of one per cent of Québec's labour force.

Bacon argued that the long-term pricing nature of the contracts will ultimately make them profitable, although Hydro's feasibility study suggested otherwise. Bacon has offered no proof to substantiate her claims.

According to a 1987 feasibility study commissioned by Hydro-Québec, the contract made between Hydro-Québec and Norsk-Hydro for subsidized electricity, will never earn a profit for the public corporation.



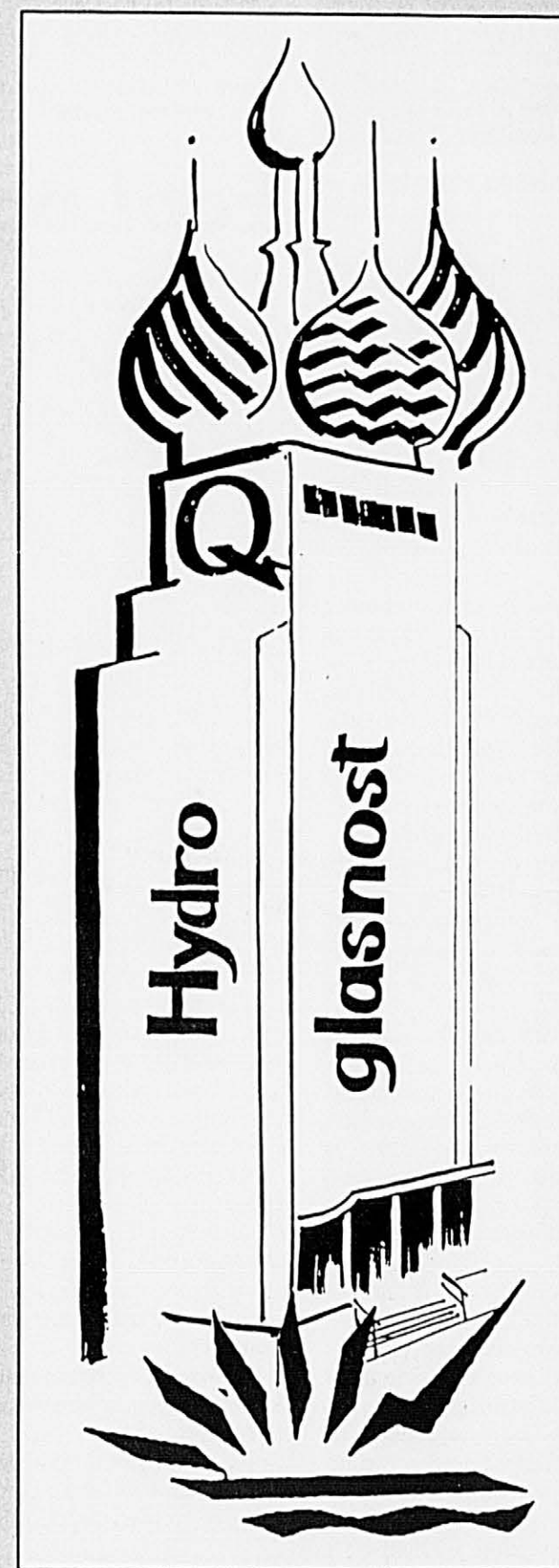
is motivated solely by his desire to promote Lehman as an underwriter of Québec bonds.

Lehman Brothers is the only North American broker fortunate enough to have a senior employee secretly advising Hydro-Québec on its energy policy and borrowing plans. Hydro documents suggest that since Schlesinger's appointment, Lehman Brothers has regularly received large underwriting contracts with both Hydro and the Québec government.

Prior to Schlesinger's appointment, Lehman's involvement with Québec was minimal.

Like Muskie and Dyson, Schlesinger would not comment. But Lehman's public relations flack Steve Faigan said Schlesinger's involvement in Québec is in keeping with "company policy", although he refused to answer questions on that policy.

Québec appointed Schlesinger despite an earlier controversy in 1978 during his tenure as US Energy Sec-



BEWARE OF YOUR SURROUNDINGS

ENVIRONMENT WEEK SERIES



In the market for a better environment.

Green products have become a rapidly growing industry. But the onslaught of environmentally friendly alternatives brings with it faulty advertising, misleading claims and, as one environmentalist described last year's Earth Day, "A massive corporate love-in."

by Noah Quastel

Many environmentalists warn that buying supposedly "green products" should not be seen as a solution.

"In the end we all consume at some level," said Judy Enck of the New York Public Research Interest Research Group (NYPIRG). "Green consumerism is one of many tools and cannot be the only tool. It does not and should not replace political actions."

Enck said there was an effort on the part of some governments and corporations to mislead the public into thinking consumerism is the only answer. "I think it is the easy way out for corporations and the government to educate people and leave the choices up to them."

But Steve Gravel, owner of Montréal's Enviromart, was optimistic of his ability to make environmental change through his store. "It all comes down to the dollar — consumers can change things," Gravel said.

The store features cleaning products which contain no NDTA or EDTA (both phosphate substitutes), and are fully biodegradable in 3-5 days. The store also carries 95 cent recycled disposable pens and coffee mugs for \$5.99 with a "no styrofoam" symbol printed on them.

"Right now the store is more of a specialty store," Gravel said. He felt that environmental change is a long process. As people become more interested in buying green there will be a demand for more products. To that end Gravel hopes to expand into bulk food and other more general interest products.

But Gravel does not think he is

only a businessman. "If you get too much into business and profit you easily slide into phoney green marketing like the President's Choice label of Loblaw's." Loblaw's has been criticized for advertising biodegradable garbage bags when in fact such bags cannot biodegrade under normal landfill conditions.

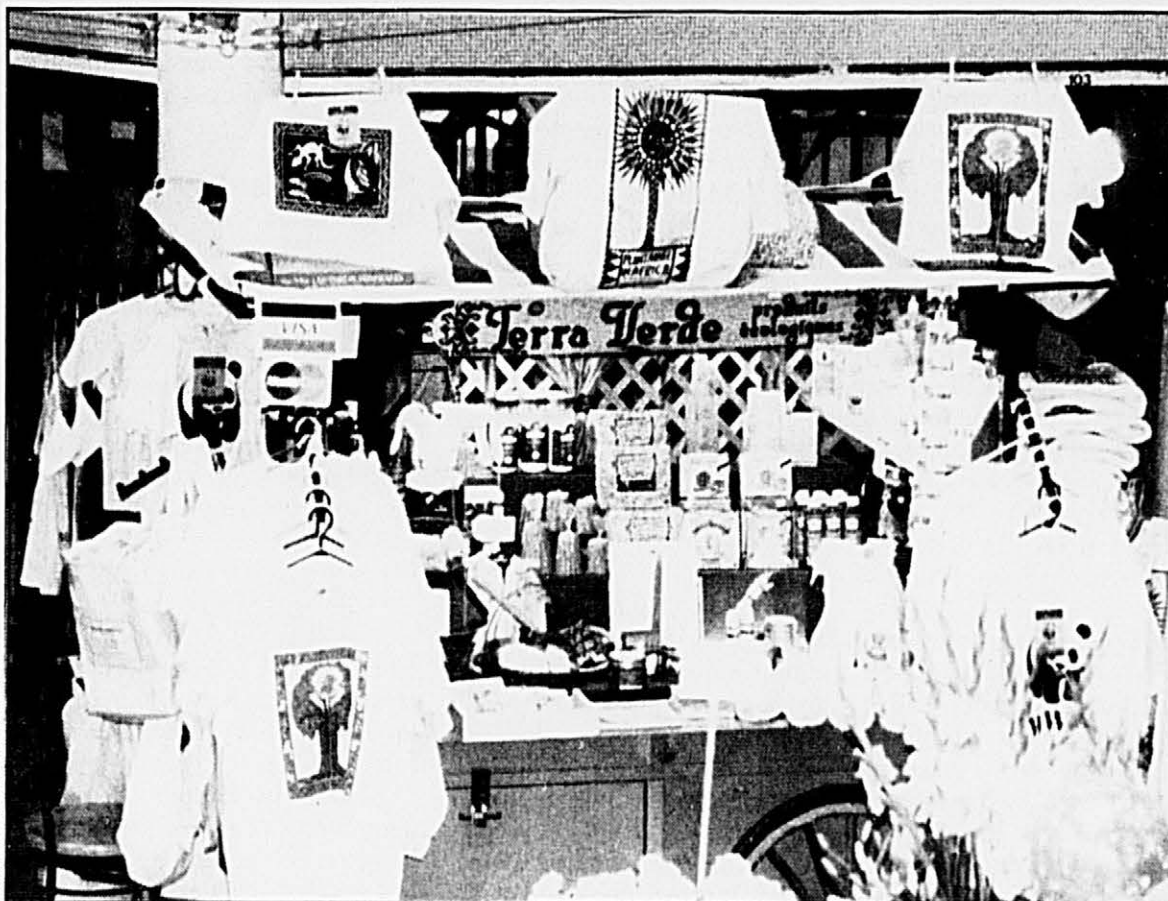
"I guess I am half a businessman and half an environmentalist," he said. "If I was a hard core environmentalist my store would be empty, of both products and customers."

Over the Sceptic Tank

Terre Verde Ecological Products has had to pursue a different marketing strategy. "Being a stall in the Faubourg puts limitations on what you can sell," Micheal Lasalle said.

Lasalle and his partner Nancy Laplante wanted to sell environmental alternatives to necessary consumer items. They soon found

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DAILY PHOTO: JANINE LUCE

EcoLogo: yet more Greenwashing



by Noah Quastel

Environmentalists are sceptical of government attempts to regulate faulty advertising directed towards the green consumer.

In response to much corporate misinformation regarding green products, the federal government created the Environmental Choice program. It is meant to aid people in buying products that are less harmful to the environment.

"The environmental choice program is a step in the right direction but it needs to be supplanted by clearer labels and more informed classification," said Janet Sumner of Pollution Probe.

The Environmental Choice Program's press release states that it was established for those "in the market for a better world." Its mandate is to tell consumer's which products really are less harmful to the environment.

To this end the program certifies individual products which meet a pre-established set of criteria. For fine paper to receive the EcoLogo it must contain over 50 per cent by weight of recycled paper, with a

minimum of 10 per cent post-consumer fibre. "Post-consumer" means it has been saved from the landfill, while "recycled" could mean merely recycled within the paper mill.

While the Environmental Choice literature says they are "committed to raising the requirements every three years as technology evolves" some people have criticized the criteria now used.

"It is not clear what their aim is insofar as they divide up the categories," said Sumner. "They should not be allowing non-rechargeable batteries as a separate category. If rechargeable batteries are compared to non-rechargeables, it is obvious which product is better for the environment."

Beware the Soap

Dr Norma Ing of EMJ Environmental Products objected to the allowance of low levels of NDTA and EDTA into dish and laundry detergents. EDTA and NDTA are cheap substitutes for phosphates. Both compounds combine with heavy metals such as lead and mercury. The result is that these metals can more easily enter the food chain. Mercury and lead are both harmful to human and animal life.

"It is good to set a standard, but if the symbol does not tell you the whole story there is no point in having it," Ing said.

Sumner added that it is not always clear what labels mean. The EcoLogo might allow recyclable products, but "it should not say

recyclable unless there are actual facilities within people's communities that can do it," she said.

"There should be notices in stores giving clear outlines of what the products and criteria are, so that consumers can know exactly what it means to be given Environmental Choice products," Sumner said.



M - An official mark of Environment Canada.

Selling to the Corporate God

The EcoLogo program has been criticized as more pliant to the needs of big business. Companies who want their product approved by the program must pay ten thousand dollars or more for certification.

"The program is prohibitive for the small entrepreneur," said Donna Passmore, of Friends of the Earth. "They are unable to compete with the big companies who can afford to test all their products."

Pollution Probe has similar criticisms and has not participated in the Environmental Choice program.

"Environmental groups do not

have the time and resources to spend three to four days in hearings, so we do not get sufficient input," said Sumner. "Industry, which does have the money and the time, as well as a vested interest, does get to have input."

The Environmental Choice program is one of the most visible programs of the government's Green Plan. It is wholly voluntary for consumers and producers.

"Given the short time we have to clean up the environmental problems, the EcoLogo simply is not enough," Passmore said.

"What the government should be doing is legislating the worst products off of the market and bringing in regulations to reduce packaging."

Passmore was also critical of the advertising campaign of the Environmental Choice program. "The taxpayer should not be expected to compete with large corporations for advertising space," Passmore said.

Passmore felt that the government should legislate regulations about environmental advertising. "The program is unable to compete with the environmentally related green marketing that overshadows the EcoLogo Program," Passmore said. She also felt that the EcoLogo program fails to deal with false and misleading claims of "green" advertising.

Passmore was critical of the program's support of consumerism. "The program leaves consumers with the sense that we can shop our way out of environmental problems."

continued from page 8

In the market

that they could not depend on a regular environmentally aware clientele.

"I am a little less optimistic after seeing the people who frequent the Faubourg," Laplante said.

Terre Verde tries to catch the attention of people who would not regularly go to stores like Enviromart. "It is not enough to just have good environmentally sound products," she said. "People prefer gift items."

Terre Verde's t-shirts are all made of unbleached, one hundred percent cotton. Paper products are one hundred percent recycled, and none of their products have animal ingredients. To reduce packaging the plastic bottles used are refundable.

"Rainforest Crunch" is typical of what they sell. It is a candy made from cashew nuts gathered from the Amazon. Sixty per cent of the manufacturers profits go to peace groups and environmental efforts.

"We do not feel bad about what we sell," Lasalle said. "I do not know how people who sell Snoopy Dog-House pencil sharpeners can have a good conscience."

Lasalle was optimistic about green consumerism. "It is more powerful than things like the Ecologo, which seem to be subject to political pressure," he said.

Both Lasalle and Laplante thought a reformation of the market place is still many years away. "The really good products start out with cottage industries and depend on small companies like ourselves to put them on the shelf," said Lasalle. "The big stores will not touch a lot of the stuff we carry."

"Ideally we would like to see our role become obsolete. All goods should be environmentally sound."

The Bottom Line

Janet Sumner of Pollution Probe was open about the limitations of green consumerism. Pollution Probe published *The Green Consumer Guide*, sometimes considered the Bible of green consumerism in Canada.

"Many people have argued that such consumerism works within the capitalist system where profit is the bottom line rather than environmental concerns," Sumner said.

But Sumner felt that increasing public awareness through green consumption can help pressure government and industry. "Corporations have to respond to public pressure to some extent," she said.

"Publishing *The Green Consumer Guide* was a pragmatic approach."

Sumner felt that the aim of the book was to get people to make better choices and ultimately see that there was also the option not to buy many unnecessary and wasteful products.

"*The Green Consumer Guide* says quite clearly that not consuming harmful products is merely one thing to do. The book also includes hints on how people can change their own lives, as well as organize for grass roots political advocacy," Sumner said. "Reduction is of course a necessary step."

"Once consumers see that they are working to change their consumption they will lose patience with governments and corporations that do nothing," Sumner said.

Enviromart owner, Gravel, agreed, "Environmental legislation would be great, but it seems that it is the people who have to lead the leaders."

continued from page 4

policies. Consequently, Israel's motives for wanting to negotiate a peace settlement are not solely based on the need to secure the loan guarantees.

On the question of Resolution 242 there is no doubt that the peace negotiations will be based upon some sort of "land for peace" agreement. To say that Israel must withdraw from every piece of land occupied in the 1967 war is clearly an impossibility at this stage in history.

The article uses an unconfirmed source to point out that Lord Caradon interpreted Resolution 242 as withdrawal from all territories. This runs contrary to what was in fact said by Lord Caradon on a MacNeil/Lehrer Report on March 30, 1978: "We didn't say there should be a withdrawal to the '67 line... We did not say that the '67 boundaries must be forever." This is just one example of the use of inaccurate sources that seemed to form the bulk of Dirlak and Arafat's article.

The student body should not be subjected to such low grade "news analysis" as evidenced in "The Ten Billion Dollar Question." This type of reporting only seems to generate further misunderstanding of what is actually an extremely complicated issue. In the future, we suggest that the *Daily* exercise better judgement in choosing its "feature news articles."

Andrew Tanenbaum
Jonathan Weisstub
Political Science

Victims need to be believed

To the Daily:

Actually this letter is an attempt to console Sylvia Dilorio of the McGill Sexual Assault Centre; your informed remarks of November 22 were not misconstrued so completely by every-

points out — "not believed." It is hardly "unfair" as per Anonymous to assume there is legitimacy to the case being presented: This is not to say that it is necessarily as the complainant suspects, a hands-down incident of sexual harassment. Rather improving these conditions of the pursuit of justice, in part by making people aware of this dual role of the assessor (both as confidante and adjudicator) will assist in avoiding the fear and re-victimization of the individual launching the complaint.

As for the 'innocence' of Anonymous, I guess we will have to take their word for it; that in fact, this case was one of "misunderstanding" and that Anonymous was "wrongly accused." Maybe being on the victorious end of his particular situation, Anonymous can afford to assume he was "fairly treated by an impartial assessor" rather than assume because he had some position of a 'professional' capacity — as opposed to the status of a student, that the university had a vested interest in seeing him absolved.

Anyway Sylvia, apart from Anonymous stating that "sexual harassment is a problem that deserves attention," I wouldn't hold your breath that he will knocking at the Centre's door anytime soon volunteering a contribution to improve a system so as to safeguard "everyone's" rights. Perhaps it is better that Anonymous stay home as it would give him a chance to ponder what actions on his behalf could have been "misunderstood" as sexual harassment.

Hargan Ridley
U3 Poli Sci

Food? What food?

To the Daily:

This letter is directed at the SSMU and Scott's foods. On Monday, Febru-

LETTERS

Bob Bouskill
History U4

Fair's fare

To the Daily:

Discrimination and inequality are two things that no one admires. People spend great amounts of energy to see that equality is accorded to all individuals.

Everyday when a post-secondary student boards a STCUM metro or bus they are a victim of flagrant inequality, and no one seems to care.

All full-time students, be them in high school, CEGEP or university merit to be eligible for some form of student fare. What is seen in reality is blatant unbridled discrimination. According to the STCUM, a student is only a student if they are going to school full-time and 18 years of age or less. Clearly the STCUM has a policy that does not adequately represent the population of Montréal, which has in its demographics four universities.

Friends for Equal Fares (FEF), a group of Concordia University students, feels that it is time that the injustice of the STCUM fare structure be accounted for. Through a comprehensive proposal to be presented to the STCUM, FEF feels that it would be possible to implement a NEW student fare without affecting the current adult fare. Student fares for post-secondary students have been operating in Ottawa for several years with great success, and there is no reason to expect that new student fares in Montréal would be any less successful.

By bringing equality to student fares, the STCUM could potentially draw student customers back to the public transit system. Increased transit use equals less vehicle use in urban Montréal and this is a positive benefit



one, as in the case with Anonymous (January 8).

It was obvious that, as in fact the title of the November article states, your primary concern is the establishment of a university Sexual Assault Policy. To take the opportunity to express some concern for "improving" McGill's Sexual Harassment Policy was not only a good idea but a necessary one, as I, victim firstly of sexual harassment and then of an unconcerned policy, can attest.

When Ms. Dilorio says "a woman [or man] must feel she is believed in a case of sexual harassment" (my parentheses) she is addressing the fear of the bureaucratic system taking over and running out of the control of the sexual harassment victim, the fear his/her remarks may not be kept in confidence, or worse — as Ms. Dilorio

my 3rd at 7:45 pm, I left my desk in McLennan Library. Why? I'm rather hungry. I arrived at Redpath cafeteria at 7:50 pm. The counter was closed. The sign says it closes at 8:00 pm on Mondays. I then walked over to the Alley, only to find that it now closes at 5:30 pm on Mondays! (The sign in Redpath cafeteria reads: the Alley Mon-Wed 8:30 am — 11:00 pm.) I walked upstairs to Gerts and was informed that the pizza counter closes at 8:00 pm "from now on."

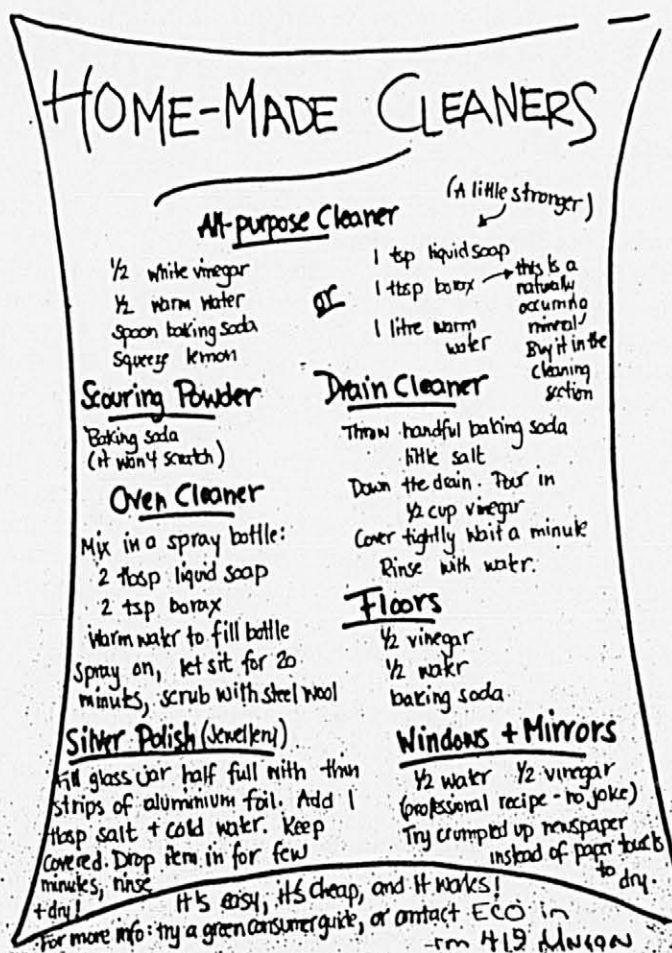
You are running a lousy food service — "expect excellence" should read "deal with mediocrity." You have made but one student angry and it has been over very particular things. But, I see that respect for a potentially large student body is dwindling. A word for Scott's: Please leave McGill University before you decide to bid for control of the reference desk.

for the polluted and congested downtown core.

The apathy of students towards what can clearly be seen as an injustice at the hands of the STCUM is bewildering. Change was affected in Ottawa through strong support and persistence on the part of students, through hard work change can be affected in Montréal.

Student fares is an issue that affects every full-time university student in Montréal. It is time that the student community stood up for its rights and made the STCUM aware that it can not go on with its present fare structure.

James Picowye
Friends for Equal Fares



McGill infested with vermin

See the rats play

by Martin McGreal

Passersby on Penfield Avenue above Pine have been shocked in recent weeks to discover that the wee little beasties scurrying in the lot opposite the faculty of Education are not inoffensive squirrels but indeed, rats.

Chris Lipowski, Technical Coordinator of McGill's Safety Department, said the *Daily's* call "was the second complaint we've received about rats at the McIntyre building" in two months.

At the Department of Public Works for the city of Montréal, Coordinator in communications Susan Ellessen stated that any such problem "is the responsibility of the University."

"Normal city procedure is to take care of public property," said

Ellessen. "Private property is the responsibility of its owner."

Despite Ellessen's claims, Carmen Spataro, custodian of McGill campus grounds, said the rat problem was the responsibility of the city of Montréal.

"We've notified the city of Montréal and they're sending a team to investigate," said Spataro.

Spataro blamed recent excavations in the area for the rat problem. He said there had been no rat sightings indoors.

He also said the custodial staff has been stopping up any holes seen outside that might lead to rat tunnels.

In the case of public property, special city "deratification" units use smoke to check that all drains leading to buildings in the vicinity of rat sightings are inaccessible to the pests, and take measures to destroy them.

"The city can warn landlords to take action. If that doesn't work, one can contact the Department of Public Works at the City of Montréal," said Ellessen.

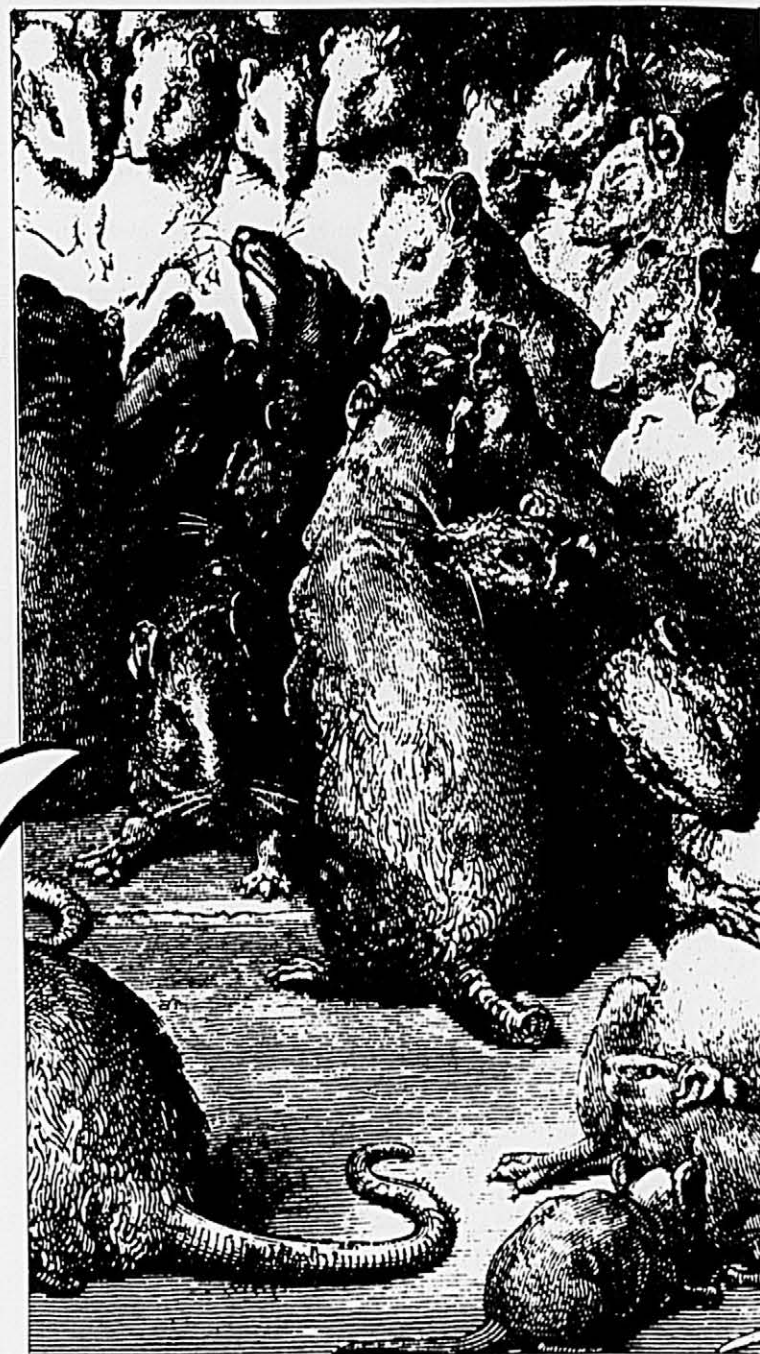
Roy Dalebozik, physical plant director, said rats on the McGill campus were part of a general problem within Montréal. He said that since the city stopped poisoning rats, their numbers have been increasing.

"There's garbage all over Montréal," said Dalebozik.

"The rats are proliferating and we don't have the piper of Hamelin."

We're not squirrels,
we're rats

WEE LITTLE BEASTIES ARE NOT INOFFENSIVE SQUIRRELS, BUT INDEED RATS.



Anti-feminist backlash plagues campuses

by Naomi Klein

TORONTO (CUP)—Women's groups across Canada are receiving an increasing number of violent threats in what some call an anti-feminist backlash on Canadian campuses.

On January 21, an anonymous caller threatened to bomb the University of Toronto's women's centre. The centre also received several calls during a meeting for lesbian and bisexual women. According to Shenaz Steri, women's centre co-ordinator, a young male said, "I'm going to bomb your fucking dyke groups. You are going to get it."

Steri said the calls came the day after the centre advertised the group for the first time.

The threats made to the centre are similar to those made to Surface, a paper at Queen's University, and to the co-presidents of Concordia University's student council, who were elected last year on a feminist platform.

Surface editor Suzanne Kim said the threats should be examined as part of a continuum of anti-feminist hostility permeating campus life.

"Women are harassed on a day to day basis in the classroom and through personal phone calls," she said. "The threats are ongoing."

Kim received a letter in October which read "We're gonna rape u dykes...In fact, we will kill all feminists slowly."

Kim sees the rise in harassment of outspoken feminists as part of a backlash against women gaining power.

"As more and more people who have been traditionally silent become more vocal, the threats become more and more violent," she said. "The status quo is lashing back at those who are stepping out of place."

"When a women's centre has a coming out group or feminists have their own newspaper, it is seen as a threat to a lot of men because it is about women trying to empower

themselves and striving to make changes in their lives."

Eleanor Brown, one of Concordia student council's co-president, received a note the day before the second anniversary of the Dec. 6 Montréal murders which read "Bitch dykes you're dead tomorrow."

Brown said her feminist politics were the motive behind the threat.

"We ran on a 'feminism works' platform, so we are very visible. Because we won as feminists, there is a lot of hysteria."

But Brown denies the threats are part of a new wave of anti-lesbian and anti-feminist sentiment. She attributes the apparent rise in threats to women's growing willingness to report the crimes.

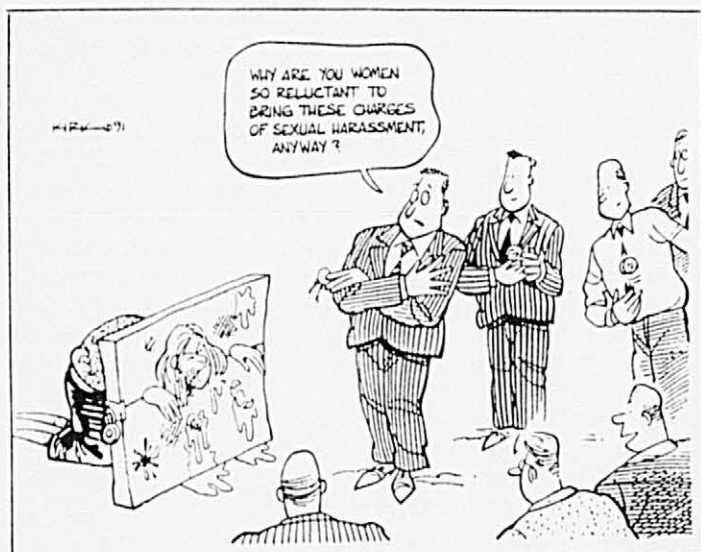
"We shouldn't feel more frightened," Brown said. "This is not a new thing. We have always been getting threats."

"We didn't used to tell anyone because we were afraid that we would get harassed in the media. But I'm not going to be quiet anymore."

Steri agreed women should go public with these incidents, but she said members of the centre's collective are more afraid and have tightened security on the building since the threats.

The centre's answering machine recorded one of the threatening calls. U of T police constable Michael Bell said it is unlikely the caller will be caught unless he persists.

Bell said if the caller is caught, he could be prosecuted for "intent to injure or alarm" under the criminal code. The crime is punishable by up to two years imprisonment and a fine of up to \$2000.



Peace bus keeps on rollin'

by April Cohen

For some, the idea of a "Peace Bus" creates an image of a bunch of hippies on their way to Woodstock, dropping acid and singing Grateful Dead tunes. But recently the term has developed a new meaning in a program developed by the World Conference on Religion and Peace.

The organization has planned to take a group of students aged twelve to eighteen on a tour of the St. Lawrence and Outouais region, where they will visit First Nations communities. The group will include seven young native people and about forty non-natives.

The tour plans to depart by the end of July or the beginning of August, 1992.

Vincent Dostaler, a non-native film director participating in the project, said the main goal of the project is to open students' minds to Native culture.

"Whenever we hear of Native people it is about confrontation and violence," he said.

"We know little about the positive aspects of Native culture. It is important to recognise that Native peoples are made up of different nations with different points of view."

The Québec students will be selected through a process involving participation in creative activities (written texts, drawing, audiovisual, etc.) centred around the theme of what 1992 means to them. Their creations will be exhibited in Montréal this May. The exposition will be a focal point in judging which students will be chosen to take part in the tour.

The Peace Bus will take along two film directors, one native and one non-native, who will put together a fifty minute video documentary to be released at the end of this year. The non-native film director will focus on the tour through the eyes of the students. The First Nations director will concentrate on the perspectives of the First Nations people visited by the students.

Dostaler has great expectations for the students participating. "They will learn something about themselves as well as other cultures," he said. "I have high hopes for the students."

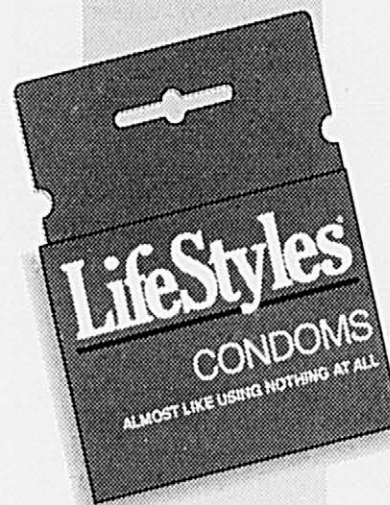
"It is a good idea to gather youth and exchange ideas. What could be wrong with that?" said Roger Wylde, an Algonquin associated with the project.

Dostaler hopes that the Peace Bus project will pave the way for a project next year in which Québec students will visit Central America to learn about the First Nations people there. "There's lots of space to build a bridge for dialogue and the Peace Bus is a place to start."

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EYE EXAMINATION AVAILABLE BY APPOINTMENT WITH OPTOMETRIST

The road to agreement: the saga continues

by Michael Rottmayer

Students' Society negotiations for a new letter of agreement with the university continued at a meeting yesterday.

The letter outlines the relationship between the Society and the university.

Students' Society has been without a letter of agreement for 14 months, because Council fired then Executive Director Don McGerrigle.

Students' Society won several concessions at the meeting, gaining more autonomy from the university than originally outlined.

In previous drafts of the agreement, the Dean of Students dictated when the agreement was no longer valid. Students' Society was uneasy about a McGill administrator being able to declare the agreement null and void at any time. Now, a mutually appointed arbitrator will make the decision.

Students' Society and the university have also agreed upon the payment of legal costs. According

to the letter of agreement, if the university is sued for something which is Students' Society's responsibility, then Student's Society must pay the legal costs.

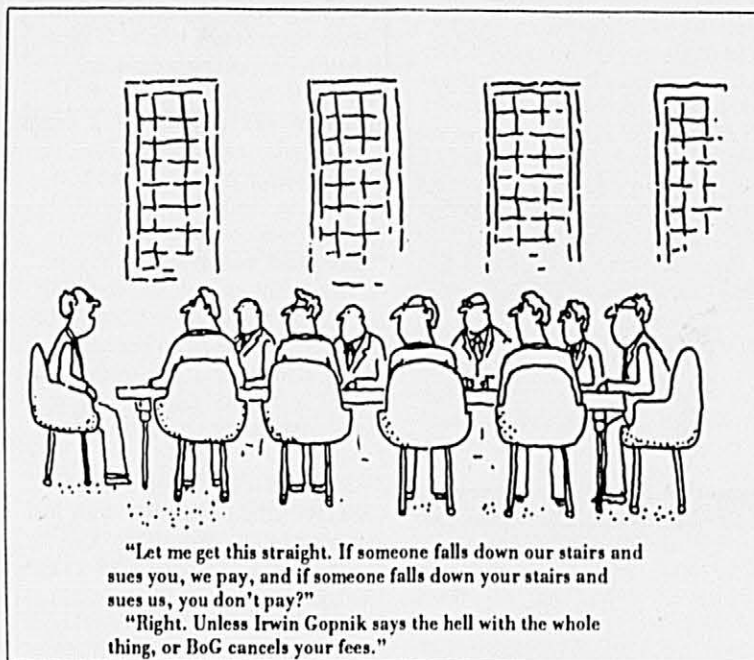
Likewise, the university has to pay the costs if Student's Society is sued for something that is the fault of the university.

Under the letter of agreement Students' Society will no longer need the approval of the Board of Governors to charge student fees, provided the procedure for setting fees is approved by the Dean of Students.

The issues of Students' Society incorporation and the Society's liquor permits remain to be decided. "When we come to major things like incorporation and liquor permits, things will become much more difficult much more quickly," said Mitic.

The university will not renew the Society's current permits, which are necessary for Gert's and the Alley to sell alcohol.

The Students' Society must incorporate in order to be able to obtain liquor permits themselves.



"The Régie des Alcools has insisted that the university change its procedure with regard to liquor permits. The university doesn't have much of a choice," said Ranyald Mercille, legal adviser for McGill and the university's chief negotiator.

As well, the university continues

to demand that Students' Society incorporate on principle. "We simply believe that it would be in the best interests of Students' Society to incorporate," said Mercille.

Mitic agreed that incorporation is a good idea.

"How can we act in an autonomous fashion when we're not

autonomous. We've always been in a position where autonomy has been difficult to achieve," said Mitic. "The McGill Daily is autonomous because it is incorporated. We want to be like the Daily."

"There's nothing about incorporation itself that would make us more or less responsible about our finances," Mitic assured.

But Students' Society can't pay for incorporation. "If the university is not willing to help with incorporation costs, we will have to decrease services or increase fees," said Mitic.

Mercille refused to comment on the subject of finances.

When asked about the possibility of Students' Society having to pay added costs for the Union, such as \$300 000 in heating and ventilation costs, Mitic said, "There is no more need to worry about it now than there was five years ago."

Mitic added that the lease agreement protects Students' Society from these costs for five years.

New Middle East group raises ire

by Renato Sogueco

Two university students from McGill and Concordia are forming an Arab-Jewish Friendship Association. Members of the dual-campus group say they intend to create ties between Arab and Jewish students, but McGill Palestinians say the group will just cause new conflicts.

"We hope to bring people out who want to understand and learn about the other side," said Michael Silverman, a co-organizer and McGill student in Jewish studies. "This will be a forum for the communities to experiment."

The association will stress cultural awareness, Silverman added. To promote a vibrant cultural exchange, the association's goal is to organize lectures, meetings and exhibitions.

But Yousef Arafat, president of the McGill Palestine Solidarity Committee, worried that forcing ties between the two groups would be reckless. He said the relationship between Palestinians and Jews is still too volatile, and feels the association may end in disaster.

"There is no need to establish this organization," he said, noting that a dialogue group already exists among several Arab and Jewish student clubs.

"To have this official organization with Arab members is wrong," Arafat said, noting that Palestinians are still being killed and deported by the Israeli government. "Until there is a peace agreement, there can be no friendship."

In principle, however, Arafat said he agreed with the idea of a dialogue.

"We have great doubts to the actual practical feasibility of this

club," Arafat warned. "Members would have extreme contradictory views, rendering the club ineffective."

The existing dialogue group, sponsored by the Progressive Zionist Caucus (PZC), conducts regular open discussions among members of McGill's Jewish and Arabic organizations.

Silverman, a member of the PZC, says the Friendship Association takes the concept of the dialogue group a step further. According to both organizers, the existing dialogue group is constrained because only members of student clubs attend. The Friendship Association will provide a less exclusive arena accessible to all members of both communities, he said.

"We have to clarify the stereotypes and prejudices we have of

each other," said Ahmed El-Karini, a Concordia student and co-organizer of the association. "If we have to discuss the Middle East, the best way to do it is discuss it in a friendly and orderly way."

David Hamaoui, co-president of the Jewish Student Union at Concordia, agreed with Arafat that the relationship between Jews and Arabs is volatile, but said the association would be a good beginning.

The Friendship Association would be one of the first official links of Arabs and Jews at Concordia, where dialogue groups do not exist.

Members of Arab club have also questioned the club's mandate to remain apolitical and cultural. Fadi Kanan, president of the Arab Student Association, felt Friendship Association discussions can only



travel on political roads. Kanan doubted the McGill Arab community will support the association.

"The Friendship Association doesn't represent the Arab community at McGill, in Montréal and Canada," Kanan said. "It only represents an extreme Arab opinion and doesn't realize the consequences of using the Arab label."

But El-Karini said an equal number of Arab and Jewish members will form the association's executive committee. Organizers

said they have collected over 100 names of potential members, and they said half are Arabs.

The association is applying for official club status at both McGill and Concordia. El-Karini is confident it will only take a few weeks. He said the club's written constitution is almost complete.

"It's being written using consultations from Jewish and Arab clubs as guidelines," he said.

The friendship association will attempt to break the traditional format other Middle-Eastern associations have adapted. Formats that stress ideological differences between Arabs and Jews.

"I feel that both sides can positively engage," he said. "This is a club where both sides can get use to the idea of togetherness. We hope our first exposition will have Arabs and Jews standing side by side."

Education according to Manning

by Matthew Rockall

OTTAWA (CUP)—Students will get vouchers worth \$3 000 to attend the college or university of their choice if the Reform Party forms the next government, says Preston Manning.

Instead of giving the provinces the \$2 billion they currently receive for universities and colleges, a Reform Party government would issue "advanced education vouchers" to individual students.

"The effective choice and bargaining power of students will be increased because they will now have the power to spend their

voucher wherever they get accepted," Manning said.

Caryn Duncan, a researcher with the Canadian Federation of Students (CFS), fears the implementation of vouchers could lead to marketing wars between schools competing for students.

"The CFS has had a longstanding policy against vouchers," Duncan said.

Manning said students will feel empowered by actually possessing a tangible piece of paper, instead of having other people shuffle it for them. However, students will have to come up with the rest of the money to cover books, rent and

living expenses.

Manning does not guarantee funding levels to universities would increase to match student enrolment.

Duncan noted federal post-secondary transfer payments to education total \$8 billion annually. Of that, only \$2 billion funds go to colleges and universities. The rest is given to the provincial government in the form of tax points and student assistance subsidies, Duncan said.

The Reform Party has not outlined its plans for the other \$6 billion.

Duncan also questioned the lo-

gistics of installing such a program. "If the amount of money going into the system is the same whether it goes to the student or the province, then why bother to change it," she said.

The Reform Party exercise would be a political move to create a higher profile for federal funding, she said.

Mark Hudson, press officer for the federal Secretary of State, the ministry responsible for university and college funding, said the voucher is an old idea.

"This has been talked about for 10 years," he said. "The problem is you need the provinces on side and they're not interested."